

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10 SAM-01 OMB-01

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O R 091406Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 668

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

CINCUSAFE

USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS ANKARA 6931

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MASS TU CY GR

SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REACTION ON CYPRUS AND ARMS EMBARGO, SEPT. 9

1. TURKISH PRESS GAVE MODERATELY HEAVY COVERAGE IN TUESDAY, SEPT 9, EDITIONS TO THE ARMS EMBARGO AND CYPRUS ISSUES. SEVERAL PAPERS, INCLUDING MILLIYET AND HURRIYET, PROMINENTLY NOTED THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE TALKS BETWEEN GREEK CYPRIOT LEADER CLERIDES AND HIS TURKISH COUNTER-PART RAUF DENKTAS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 9. THERE WAS ALSO SPECULATION ON CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON THE ARMS EMBARGO.

2. IN A WASHINGTON DATED LINE STORY SALIH UYGUR, WRITING IN UNCLASSIFIED

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MASS CIRCULATION HURRIYET, SAID THAT A VOTE MIGHT BE TAKEN IN

CONGRESS AS EARLY AS SEPT 9. HE CONTINUED: "AS A RESULT OF THE ATMOSPHERE CREATED IN THE 435 MAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY THE LOBBY ON BEHALF OF TURKEY, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE PRESSURES WOULD BRING RESULTS AND THE EMBARGO WILL BE LIFTED." UYGUR SAID THAT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH WORKED IN FAVOR OF THE GROUP ATTEMPTING TO LIFT THE EMBARGO WERE THE CONVERSATIONS SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS HAD WITH MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE. HE ADDED THAT OBSERVERS BELIEVE CONCESSIONS MADE BY TURKEY DURING THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE DECISION OF THE HOUSE.

3. LIBERAL REFORMIST MILLIYET AND HURRIYET ALSO CARRIED A NEWS REPORT ON A GROUP OF 13 TURKISH BUSINESSMEN WHO HAVE GONE TO THE U.S. TO WORK FOR REMOVAL OF THE EMBARGO. THE PAPERS QUOTE FROM AN ADVERTISEMENT PLACED BY THE GROUP IN THE NY TIMES AND WASHINGTON POST.

4. IN A NEW YORK DATELINED STORY, MILLIYET CORRESPONDENT SAMI KOHEN REPORTED THAT TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS MAY BE THE BIGGEST STUMBLING BLICK TO POSITIVE RESULTS AT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN NEW YORK. CLERIDES IS INSISTING THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS MAKE THEMSELVES CLEAR ON THE LAND ISSUE AND HAS THREATENED TO BOYCOTT THE TALKS IF THIS IS NOT FORTHCOMING. ACCORDING TO KPHEN, CLERIDES ALSO THINKS THAT A BREAKDOWN IN THE TALKS WOULD AFFECT THE U.S. CONGRESS AND PREVENT LIFTING THE EMBARGO. KOHEN CONTINUED THAT EVEN IF THE U.N. WERE TO DEAL WITH THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IT WOULD NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

5. IN COMMENTARY ON THE CYPRUS TALKS, MUNTAZ SOYSAL, WRITING IN MILLIYET, BACKED A MORE RADICAL STRATEGY FOR TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY: "TURKEY MAY MISS ITS LAST CHANCE TO FIND A SOLID SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS ISSUE.....THIS LAST CHANCE IS CONCERNED WITH AN APPROACH WHICH IS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN WITHDRAWING PART OF THE COMMANDO UNITS FROM THE ISLAND IN ORDER TO INFLUENCE THE U.S. CONGRESS.....IT IS THE CHANCE FOR TURKEY TO ANNOUNCE TO THE ARAB WORLD AND THE WHOLE WORLD THAT TURKEY DOES NOT WANT FOREIGN BASES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND THAT IS WHY SHE OBJECTED TO MILITARY BASES IN CYPRUS.... NOW TURKEY HAS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO SAY 'NO' TO ALL UNCLASSIFIED

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BASES IN THE REGION AND TO THE EXISTENCE OF IMPERIALISM IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN...BUT TO SAY 'NO' REQUIRES A GOVERNMENT WHICH REALLY OBJECTS TO THE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN THE REGION. THOSE WHO ARE VERY MUCH ALARMED AND ASKING 'WHAT SHOULD WE DO TO PLEASE THE CONGRESS' CANNOT SOLVE THE CYPRUS ISSUE AT ALL."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA06931
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750311-0721
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750968/aaaachwo.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2004 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REACTION ON CYPRUS AND ARMS EMBARGO, SEPT. 9
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006